



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
F BATTERY, 1ST BATTALION, 31ST FIELD ARTILLERY
6060 ROTHWELL STREET
FORT SILL, OKLAHOMA 73503

ATSF-KJF

18 December 2012

Dear Family Member,

I am Captain Hunter Gallacher, the Commander of F Battery, 1st Battalion 31st Field Artillery, and your Soldier's Commander for Basic Combat Training. The Soldiers of F Battery are now almost half way through their training and have qualified with the M16 rifle, completed several obstacle courses, and are starting to look forward to graduation. It will be a milestone in their military careers that I'm sure you are anticipating just as much as they are.

After the completion of Holiday Block Leave, our training will get more intense as we begin to train on the use of basic Infantry tactics and finish with a weeklong Field Training Exercise (FTX). Every day these Soldiers gain more pride in their accomplishments and walk a little taller. By the time they graduate I'm sure you'll agree that these Soldiers have come a long way since you last saw them.

The final week here will be very busy with out-processing and graduation practice, so I have set aside time on the afternoons of **February 7th and 8th, 2013** for you to spend with each other. Please stick to the prescribed timeline (enclosed), as the Soldiers will be occupied with many other activities during this week.

Our graduation ceremony will be held on **February 8th, 2013 at 1000 at the Sheridan Theater** located on Fort Sill. It must be noted that although we do our best to aid each and every individual to pass all training requirements, not everyone successfully completes our training program. In the event that your Soldier has encountered some obstacle to graduation, he or she will be advised to contact you as soon as that information is available. In the unfortunate event that your Soldier has not met the graduation requirements, he or she will not be allowed to graduate.

If I can be of assistance in any matter relating to BCT or if you have questions regarding the training, the military, or our family day/graduation please feel free to call or write. My telephone numbers are **(580) 442-5095** or **(580) 442-5026**. Ask for myself, First Sergeant Wallace, or Lieutenant Alexander (please do not call collect). Our office is open 24 hours a day however we are frequently out in the field for training events. You can also reach me via Facebook (search: F Battery, 1st Battalion, 31st Field Artillery) or via email at hunter.gallacher@us.army.mil.

Finally, please keep this letter and bring it with you on your trip to Fort Sill, it will serve as a pass to gain entrance to the post. Thank you for the opportunity to train your new Soldier. They have joined a proud and strong tradition as part of the finest Army in the world. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with them. I look forward to either hearing from you or meeting you at graduation.

HUNTER A. GALLACHER
CPT, FA
Commanding

F/1-31 Class # 7-13 Family Day and Graduation Timeline

Date	Event	Location	Time	Notes
7 February 2013	Soldier Demonstrations & Family Day Briefing	Sheridan Theatre Building #3260	1000-1100	Your Soldier will leave with a copy of the Safety Briefing covering the rules they must follow during Family Day.
7 February 2013	Family Day Pass	Family Discretion within the local area (must remain inside Comanche County, Oklahoma)	1100-2030	Soldier Recall Formation on the Battery Drill Pad at 2030 Central Standard Time.
8 February 2013	Graduation	Sheridan Theater Building #3260	1000-1100	Please arrive early; the ceremony will begin promptly at 1000. The ceremony will end at 1100 at which time you will have a few minutes to take photos and visit with your Soldier outside the theatre. From there all 13/14 series* (Artillery and Air Defense Artillery) Soldiers will be transported back to the Battery for out processing. Soldiers who are travelling to AIT via provided Government Travel may depart for a local area pass directly from the theatre.
8 February 2013	13 & 14 Series In-processing AIT	13 Series* AIT (1-78 FA) 14 Series** AIT (30 th ADA) Fort Sill, OK	1130-UTC	The 13/14 series Soldiers will return to the Battery, change uniforms, and pick up their training records and baggage. They will then be transported to their AIT where they will begin in processing. Expect a weekend pass to be issued from the AIT unit once your Soldier completes in processing.
8 February 2013	Graduation Pass	Family Discretion within the local area (must remain inside Comanche County, Oklahoma)	1130-2030	Soldier Recall Formation on the Battery Drill Pad at 2030 for Soldiers on Graduation Day Pass, they will begin boarding transportation that night for AIT.

*13 Series Soldiers are those who have chosen a Field Artillery Military Occupational Specialty

**14 Series Soldiers are those who have chosen an Air Defense Artillery Military Occupational Specialty

For information on the local area see www.lawtonfortsillchamber.com.